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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/717,382	NUKUI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	David V. Bruce	2882
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.		
1. X This communication is responsive to <u>pre-amendment of 19 Nov 03</u> .		
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.		
3. 🔀 The drawings filed on 19 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.		
<ul> <li>4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a)  All b)  Some* c) None of the:  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* Certified copies not received:</li> </ul>		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
<ul> <li>6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.</li> <li>(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached</li> <li>1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).</li> </ul>		
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.		
<ul> <li>Attachment(s)</li> <li>1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/O Paper No./Mail Date 20031119</li> <li>4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> </ul>	6. ☐ Interview Su Paper No./ 98), 7. ☐ Examiner's	formal Patent Application (PTO-152)  ummary (PTO-413),  Mail Date  Amendment/Comment  Statement of Reasons for Allowance  -

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claims address a beam hardening post-processing method (independent claims 1 and 2) and an X-ray CT apparatus with beam hardening correction where sinograms are acquired of a phantom offset from the imaging center, corrected for beam hardening, fitting the corrected image, and fitting the fitted data an all views using an independent variable for each channel to creating a correction function. This feature is neither shown nor fairly suggested in the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nukui et al. US 2004/0208290 A1 and Tanigawa et al US 2004/0196960 A1 appear to be related to the present application. Stierstorfer et al. US 2004/0022364 A1 shows fitting functions for sinogram correction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David V. Bruce whose telephone number is (571) 272-2487. The examiner can normally be reached on M - Th and alt Fri 8:00 - 4:30 subject to I-Flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David V Bruce Primary Examiner Art Unit 2882

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